

I. Listing of Claims

This listing of claims replaces without prejudice all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

32. (Previously Presented) An unexpanded stent comprising:

a proximal end and a distal end in communication with one another,

a tubular wall disposed between the proximal end and the distal end, the tubular wall having a longitudinal axis and a porous surface defined by a plurality of interconnecting struts,

the stent being expandable upon the application of a radially outward force thereon to undergo plastic deformation to a maximum yield point when the tubular wall has a diameter of less than or equal to about 3.5 mm.

33. (Previously Presented) The unexpanded stent defined in claim 32, wherein the stent is expandable:

from a first unexpanded position to a second pre-expanded position at which the stent has reached a point of plastic deformation; and

from the second pre-expanded position to a third expanded position wherein the stent will undergo plastic deformation to a maximum yield point when the tubular wall has a diameter of less than or equal to about 3.5 mm.

34. (Previously Presented) The unexpanded stent defined in claim 33, wherein, in the second pre-expanded position, the stent has a diameter greater than about 1.1 mm.

35. (Previously Presented) The unexpanded stent defined in claim 33, wherein, in the second pre-expanded position, the stent has a diameter sufficiently large for the stent to receive expansion means to further expand the stent.

36. (Previously Presented) The unexpanded stent defined in claim 33, wherein, in the first unexpanded position, the stent has a diameter less than or equal to about 1.1 mm.

37. (Previously Presented) The unexpanded stent defined in claim 33, wherein, in the first unexpanded position, the stent has a diameter in the range of from about 0.5 to about 1.1 mm.

38. (Previously Presented) The unexpanded stent defined in claim 33, wherein, in the first unexpanded position, the stent has a diameter in the range of from about 0.5 to about 1.0 mm.

39. (Previously Presented) The unexpanded stent defined in claim 32, wherein the tubular wall has a substantially circular cross-section.

40. (Previously Presented) The unexpanded stent defined in claim 32, wherein the tubular wall is constructed of a plastically deformable material.

41. (Previously Presented) A partially expanded stent comprising a proximal end and a distal end in communication with one another, a tubular wall disposed between the proximal end and the distal end, the tubular wall having a longitudinal axis and a porous surface defined by a plurality of interconnecting struts, the stent:

having been expanded by the application of a radially outward force thereon from a first unexpanded position to a second pre-expanded position at which the stent has reached a point of plastic deformation, and

being further expandable upon the application of a radially outward force thereon from the second pre-expanded

position to a third expanded position wherein the stent will undergo plastic deformation to a maximum yield point when the tubular wall has a diameter of less than or equal to about 3.5 mm.

42. (Previously Presented) The partially expanded stent defined in claim 41, wherein, in the third expanded position of the stent, the maximum yield point is reached when the tubular wall has a diameter of less than or equal to about 3.3 mm.

43. (Previously Presented) The partially expanded stent defined in claim 41, wherein, in the third expanded position of the stent, the maximum yield point is reached when the tubular wall has a diameter in the range of from about 2.2 to about 3.3 mm.

44. (Previously Presented) The partially expanded stent defined in claim 41, wherein, in the third expanded position of the stent, the maximum yield point is reached when the tubular wall has a diameter in the range of from about 2.5 to about 3.0 mm.

45. (Previously Presented) A stent delivery kit comprising:

a catheter;
an expandable member disposed on the catheter; and
the partially expanded stent defined in claim 41
disposed on the catheter

46. (Previously Presented) The stent delivery kit defined in claim 45, wherein the stent is mechanically mounted on the expandable member.

47. (Previously Presented) The stent delivery kit defined in claim 46, wherein the stent is crimped onto the expandable member.

48. (Previously Presented) A method for mounting an unexpanded stent on a catheter having an expandable member disposed thereon, the unexpanded stent comprising a proximal end and a distal end in communication with one another, a tubular wall disposed between the proximal end and the distal end, the tubular wall having a longitudinal axis and a porous surface defined by a plurality of interconnecting struts, the stent being expandable upon the application of a radially outward force thereon:

(i) expanding the unexpanded stent to a second pre-expanded position at which the stent has reached a point of plastic deformation to produce a partially expanded stent,

the unexpanded stent being configured such that it has a maximum yield point when the tubular wall has a diameter of less than or equal to about 3.5 mm; and

(ii) placing the partially expanded stent on the expandable member of the catheter.

49. (Previously Presented) The method defined in claim 48, wherein Step (i) comprises urging the stent over a mandrel in a direction substantially parallel to the longitudinal axis.

50. (Previously Presented) The method defined in claim 48, wherein Step (i) comprises pushing the stent over a mandrel in a direction substantially parallel to the longitudinal axis.

51. (Previously Presented) The method defined in claim 48, wherein Step (i) comprises pulling the stent over a mandrel in a direction substantially parallel to the longitudinal axis.

52. (Previously Presented) The method defined in claim 50, wherein the mandrel is tapered.

53. (Previously Presented) The method defined in claim 48, wherein Step (i) comprises urging the stent over a die in a direction substantially parallel to the longitudinal axis.

54. (Previously Presented) The method defined in claim 48, wherein Step (i) comprises placing the stent over an expandable means, and thereafter expanding the stent to the second pre-expanded position.

55. (Previously Presented) The method defined in claim 48, wherein Step (ii) comprises crimping the partially expanded stent on to the expandable member of the catheter.

56. (Previously Presented) An unexpanded stent according to claim 32, wherein said tubular wall has a medicinal coating disposed thereon.

57. (Previously Presented) A partially expanded stent according to claim 41, wherein said tubular wall has a medicinal coating disposed thereon.

58. (Previously Presented) A stent kit according to claim 41, wherein said tubular wall has a medicinal coating disposed thereon.

59. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 48, wherein the stent has a medicinal coating disposed thereon.